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LOG OF MEETING

U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER MARY SHEILA GALL

SUBJECT: Meeting with CEO's of Water Heater Industry Joint Research and Development Consortium to discuss progress on developing a gas-fired water heater and testing standard to address hazard of flammable vapor ignition

DATE OF MEETING: June 9, 1997

PLACE: Room 714, CPSC Headquarters, Bethesda, Maryland


LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Dennis B. Wilson

DATE OF ENTRY: June 12, 1997

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Mary Sheila Gall, Commissioner
Patricia Semple, Special Assistant
Dennis Wilson, Special Assistant (Legal)
Don Switzer, ESEE

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Robert Trudeau, American Water Heater Company; Ed Hackney, Southcorp USA, Inc.; Terry Parsons, GSW Water Heating Company; Larry Thrailkill, outside counsel for State Industries; John Lindahl, State Industries; Scott Huizenga, outside counsel for Bradford White; Bob Carnevale, Bradford White Corporation; Dan Brown, Rheem Manufacturing Company; Gary Tapella, Rheem Manufacturing Company; Steward Farwell, Rheem Manufacturing Company; Clem Erhardt, Consortium Counsel, Miles & Stockbridge; Jack Langmead, Water Heater Consortium Coordinator

SUMMARY OF MEETING: Spokesmen for the Consortium described the progress made and the steps yet to be taken to develop a gas-fired water heater that resisted igniting flammable vapors. They emphasized the necessity to do a complete engineering analysis, so that gas-fired water heaters designed to resist igniting flammable vapors would not create other, possibly more serious problems. Commissioner Gall agreed that the Consortium needed to take the time to do a complete engineering solution and urged them to resist pressures to move a new water heater design to the market prematurely.



testing provisions of the ECA. Issues related to aspect of the exposure testing were left to be considered by the DBE Group. Specifics of the meeting are being summarized in a meeting log by EPA. Outside organizations who are interested in this information should contact George Semeniuk at EPA.